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SUPERFUND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION

A NEW APPROACH

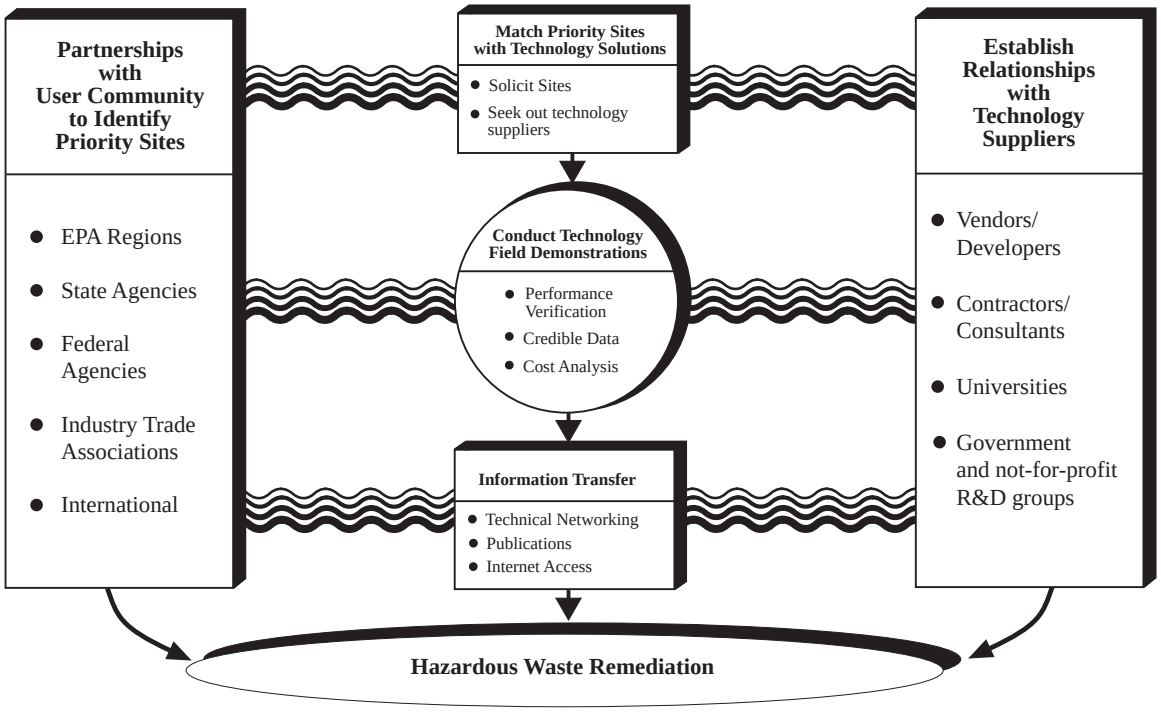
A recent review of the Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation (SITE) Program indicated that operational shifts are necessary to maintain the program's position as a progressive, "state-of-the-art" leader in the environmental field. *The SITE Program will shift from a technology-driven focus to a more integrated approach driven by the needs of the waste remediation community.* The SITE Program's **vision** is to be a premier organization in enhancing the credibility and implementation of effective innovative remediation options. The program's **mission** is to advance the development and application of innovative remediation technologies in order to protect human health and the environment from contaminant releases. To fulfill this mission, the SITE Program will emphasize the following:

- Low-cost technologies
- Partnerships
- Resource leveraging

THE FOUNDATION

The SITE Program has been successfully encouraging the development and implementation of innovative treatment technologies for hazardous site remediation for the past 10 years. The SITE Program was created in response to the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 to encourage the development and routine use of innovative treatment technologies. As a result, the SITE Program provides environmental deci-

SITE Innovation on the MOVE



sion makers with data on new, viable treatment technologies that may have performance or cost advantages compared to conventional treatment technologies.

SITE is the pioneer program in testing and evaluating innovative treatment technologies. The SITE Program has been responsive and successful in achieving the goals set to meet the program mission of advancing the development and commercialization of innovative treatment technologies.

Key elements that contribute to the SITE Program's position as the premier evaluating program include the following:

- Credibility
- Objectivity
- Technical expertise

THE NEXT GENERATION

The next generation of SITE can be defined by the following four operating principles.

Matching site needs with innovative technology solutions

The goal of this action is to identify the needs of the user community. Sites are solicited and prioritized based on (1) the demonstration needs of the user, and (2) the research focus areas identified by EPA (such as groundwater treatment, *in situ* treatment, and metals in soil treatment).

Conducting technology field demonstrations

The aims of the SITE Program are to rapidly conduct field demonstrations of high technical quality and to verify performance of remediation technologies. The resulting data and reports are intended for use by site owners and government decision-makers in selecting remediation options. The data and reports add credibility to technology vendors for promoting their processes.

Identifying and responding to the technology needs of the remediation community is the driving force behind the redesigned SITE Program. The goal of the program is to interact with the user community, understand its needs, integrate those needs with EPA's research mission, and expeditiously address those needs.

Information transfer

Information transfer activities ensure that valuable technical information is disseminated to increase awareness and promote products evaluated under the program for use at site cleanups. Information transfer activities consist of technical networking, publications, electronic distribution, Internet, and conference exhibits.

Program quality planning

Overall program direction and strategies will be evaluated each year based on responses from the user community. Information gathered through networking with the user community will be incorporated into the program planning process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the SITE Program, contact Annette Gatchett at the National Risk Management Research Laboratory, 26 W. Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45268, or at (513) 569-7697. Information on the SITE Program is also available on the Internet at: *http://www.epa.gov/ORD/SITE/*

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